

Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (VHSP)

FY 2015-16 Grant Implementation Session

Wednesday, June 25, 2014 10 AM

> Monday, June 30, 2014 2 PM (Webinars)

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development



To access webinar audio

Call-in toll free number 1-8668425779

Conference Code: 804 371 7100



Community based application

- A community based application was received from each of the 27 Continua of Care (CoC) and Balance of State Local Planning Groups (LPG)
- All CoCs/LPGs received funding
- Six member panel reviewed and scored the applications



Virginia Homeless Solutions Program Goals

- To reduce the number of individuals/households who become homeless;
- To shorten the length of time an individual or household is homeless; and
- To reduce the number of individuals/households who return to homelessness



Grant Agreements

- VHSP Agreement with the lead agency
- VHSP contracts with the grantees identified on the year one spending plan
- Contract dates July 1, 2014 June 30, 2015
- Expenditures begin July 1
- Second year funding is contingent on compliance, performance, available funding



Match Requirement

- 25% match required
- Please note that this match requirement may be met at the community and/or grantee level
- Only Virginia Homeless Solutions eligible activities funded by local (local government or private) resources may be used to meet this requirement
- Match resources are exclusive and may not be used to meet multiple match requirements
- Match resources may include cash, in-kind, and volunteer labor (\$5/hour)



Crisis Response System

VHSP assistance is not intended to provide long-term support, nor will it be able to address all of the financial and supportive services needs of households. Rather, assistance should be focused on housing stabilization, linkages to community resources and mainstream benefits, and helping program participants develop a plan for preventing future housing instability.

Grantee programs should therefore ensure that there is a clear process for determining the type, level, and duration of assistance for each program participant.

Eligible Activities:

There are nine categories of eligible activities for the Virginia Homeless Solutions program:

- Shelter Operations
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Prevention
- Child Services Coordination
- Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System*
- CoC Planning
- HMIS
- Administration
- HOPWA Assistance

^{*} May be eliminated due to budget reductions



Eligible Activity:

The focus of all activities is:

- To quickly obtain permanent housing (primary focus)
- To obtain housing stability (secondary focus)



Eligible Activity: Shelter

 Shelter is a temporary measure. A housing barrier assessment is completed upon entering the homeless services system and work starts immediately to transition the household to permanent housing. Eligible program participants are assisted with RR-H assistance to transition to permanent housing. In all cases, shelter stays are minimized.



Eligible Activity: Rapid Re-housing

Rapid Re-housing Eligibility

- When households initially receive rapid re-housing assistance they must be <u>literally homeless</u>.
- Re-housing financial assistance beyond three months requires recertification of eligibility. This recertification must be completed every three months. Recertification for case management is required at 12 months.

Recertification (financial assistance) requires grantee certification and evidence of:

- Program participant household income below 30 percent area median income (AMI)
- The household lacks the financial resources and support networks needed to remain in existing housing without rapid re-housing assistance
- Housing stabilization services are being appropriately implemented



Eligible Activity: Prevention

Prevention Eligibility

- At imminent risk of homelessness; and
- Household income below 30% AMI; and
- No other resources

Recertification for financial assistance is required every three months and at 12 month for case management

Clients at 50% from FY 2014 are eligible until recertification. Case Management services may continue after financial assistance is ineligible



Leveraging for Diversion/Prevention

Non-financial prevention assistance should be leveraged where possible to divert households from homelessness. Financial Assistance should be the last resort to prevent homelessness.

Data shows eviction is usually not the last "stop"
 before homelessness (National Alliance to End Homelessness)



Eligible Activity: Child Services Coordination

Funds may be used to support a community based system that provides for child services coordination targeted to homeless children (HUD definition).

- Only costs associated with community based solutions that maximize mainstream resources are eligible
- Eligible costs include salaries, space, and supply costs directly associated with providing coordinated and community based assessments, referrals, and follow up



Other Eligible Activities

- •Centralized Coordinated Assessment costs associated with developing and implementing a Coordinated Assessment used across the CoC (category may be eliminated due to budget reductions)
- •CoC Planning costs associated with the work of the CoC as a coordinating group (committees, sub-committees, funding)
- •HMIS HMIS software/licenses, computer equipment, and staff costs associated with data collection, entry, analysis, and training
- •Administration costs associated with the VHSP grant
 - –Accounting
 - –Preparing Reports
 - -Audits
 - –Training



Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program was authorized by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 and revised under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, to provide states and localities with the resources and incentives to devise and implement long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of low-income persons with Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and related diseases, and their families.



HOPWA

Program Participant Eligibility

- Household has at least one person who has Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) or related diseases (Human Immunodeficiency Virus, that is, HIV infection). This includes households where the only eligible person is a minor. Medical verification of status is required.
- The household must be at or below 80 percent of Area Median Income (AMI). Income limits are available on HUD's web site at: http://www.huduser.org/DATASETS/il.html.
 Grantees should use HUD's Section 8 income eligibility standards for HOPWA.



HOPWA Eligible Activities

Summary of Eligible Activities		
Type Activity	Priority	Budget Parameters
TBRA	HIGH	Total housing assistance 65 percent* or greater (may be combined with STRMU so that total housing assistance is 65 percent or greater)
STRMU	HIGH	Total housing assistance 65 percent* or greater (may be combined with TBRA so that total housing assistance is 65 percent or greater)
Supportive Services Including permanent housing placement	MEDIUM	35 percent* or less
Administrative Costs	N/A	Not more than 7 percent*



FURTHER VHSP GUIDANCE



Required Documents

- Minimum Eligibility Requirements (provided)
- Basic Habitability Checklist (provided)
- Visual Lead Inspection (provided)
- Rent Reasonableness (documentation)
- Fair Market Rent (documentation)
- Housing Barrier Assessment (not provided)
- Housing and Service Plan (not provided)
- Landlord/Program Participant Written Agreement (not provided)
- Signed Valid Lease (not provided)

See program guidelines for all required documents



Voluntary Stabilization Services

While case management is required at least monthly, stabilization services <u>may not</u> be required of program participants.

Arrearages

 Arrearages should only be paid if it is keeping someone from obtaining or remaining in housing.



Fair Market Rent and Rent Reasonableness Requirement

When households are moved into a new unit or stabilized into an existing unit. The rent must meet two standards

- Rent Reasonableness rent is equal to or less than other like units in the area
- Fair Market Rent (FMR) rent (including utilities) is at or below the HUD established FMR for the unit size in the area



Additional requirements

- Grantees must comply with all applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements
- Grantees will provide all activities in a manner that is free from religious influence
- New grantees (agencies without recent DHCD funding) will be subject to an organizational assessment
- Grantees with any outstanding audit findings should contact DHCD to work to resolve issues
- Grantees must utilize HMIS (excluding DV and HOPWA providers)



Expenditure Rates

Reviewed throughout the year

De-obligations/reallocations will be based on expenditure rates

Communities should monitor rates closely



Projections

Projections will be reviewed closely

Denials may occur if the projection in May exceeds the average bi-monthly remittance request

- HOPWA is not paid from projections



Other Requirements

- Prohibition against involuntary separation
- Confidentiality Policy (unintentional HIV status disclosure violations)
- Grievance/Discharge Policy
- Conflict of interest (individual and agency)
- Non-discrimination
- Equal opportunity
- Fair housing

See program guidelines for a more extensive list of other requirements



Ineligible/Prohibited Activities

- Grantee past due taxes
- Grantee late fees
- Repayment of loan from program participant to grantee
- Return of deposits not tracked as program income
- Assistance where other sources are available
- Program participant fees
- Exclusionary policies

See program guidelines for a more extensive list of prohibited activities



2-1-1 Requirement and Primary Contact for assistance

- Grantees must maintain up-to-date program information on the Virginia 2-1-1 system
- http://www.211virginia.org/contactus.php

 CoCs and local planning groups must provide a local method and point-of-contact appropriate for referrals from state agencies and providers outside of their CoC or local planning group. This contact must directly link individuals or providers to the centralized or coordinated assessment system.



CAIVIS



CAMS Help

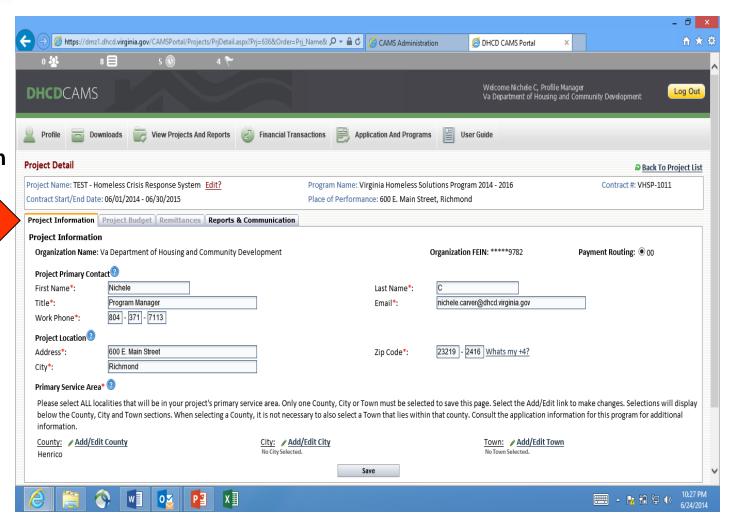
The CAMS user guide is available at the link below, it can also be found on the top menu of the CAMS login page

http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/images/CAMS/URG-Table-Of-Contents.pdf



Finalizing Project Creation

Go to the Project Information tab





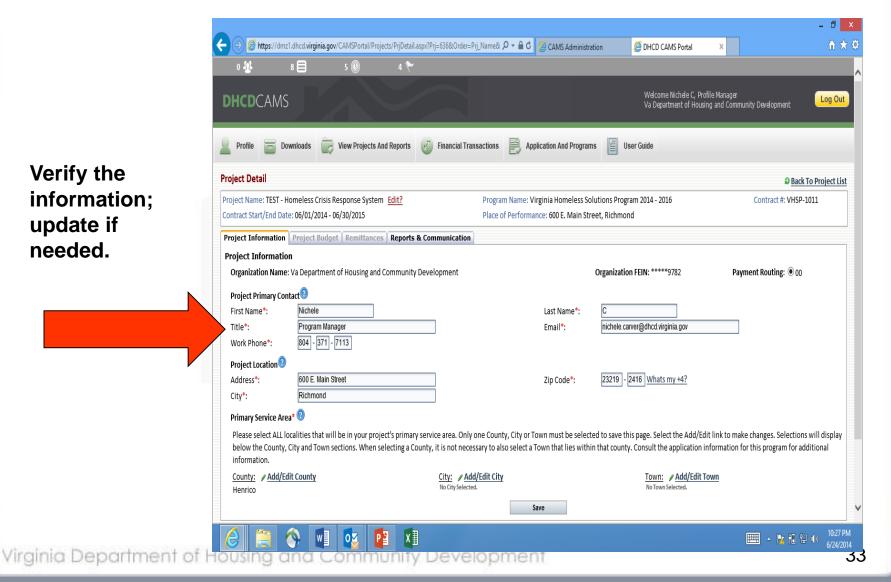
Verify the

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needed.

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Finalizing Project Creation





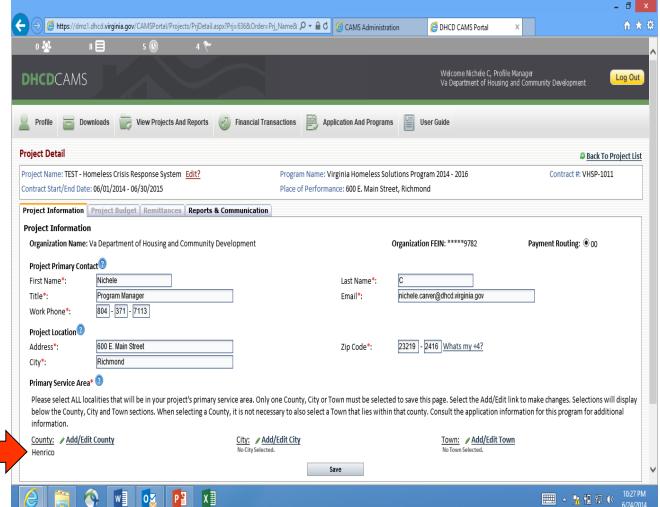
Add all

Areas

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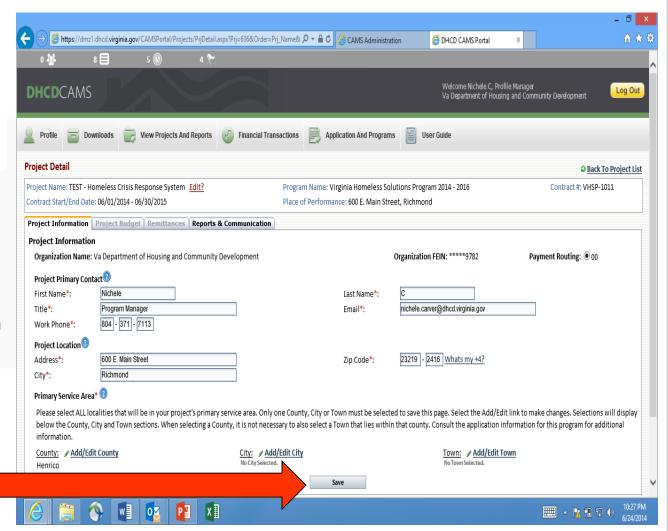
Primary Service

Finalizing Project Creation





Finalizing Project Creation



Once all project information has been entered and checked click <u>Save</u> at the bottom of the page.

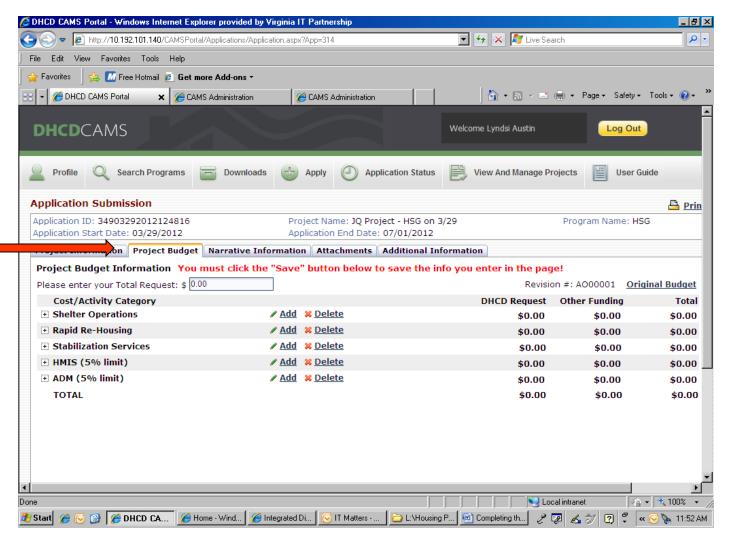


Go to the

budget tab

Project

Submitting budget in CAMS





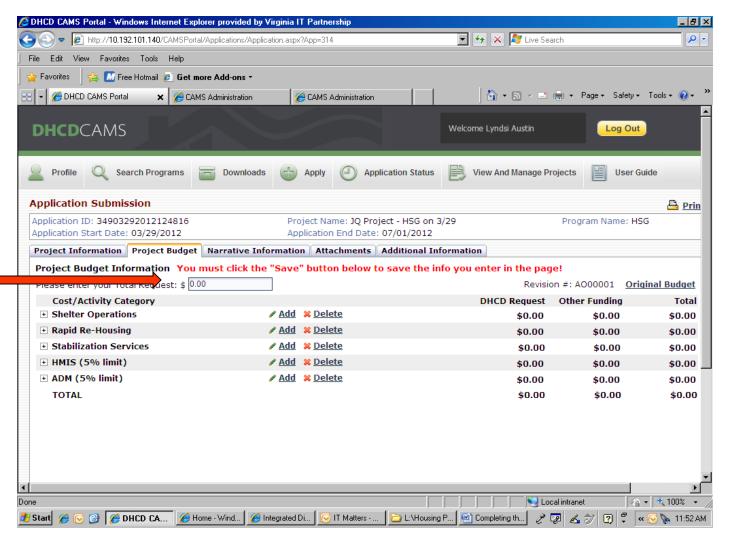
Enter grant

award in the

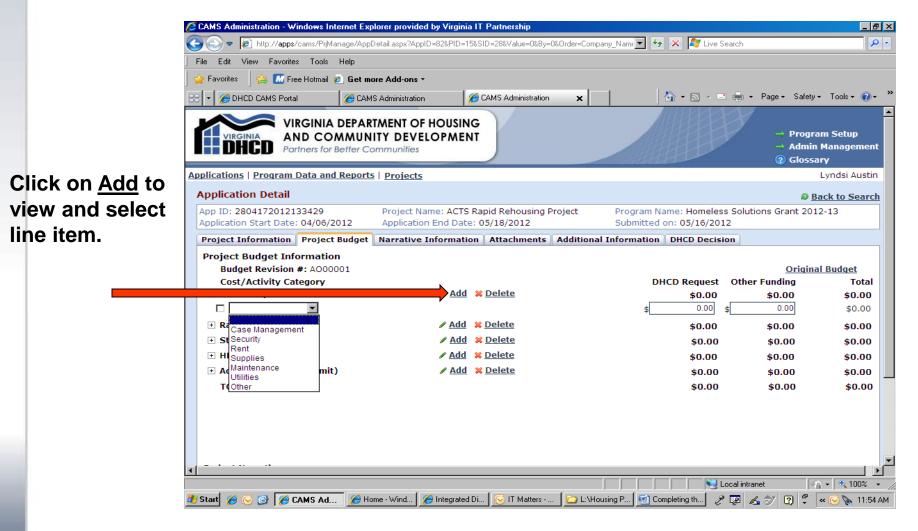
total request

box

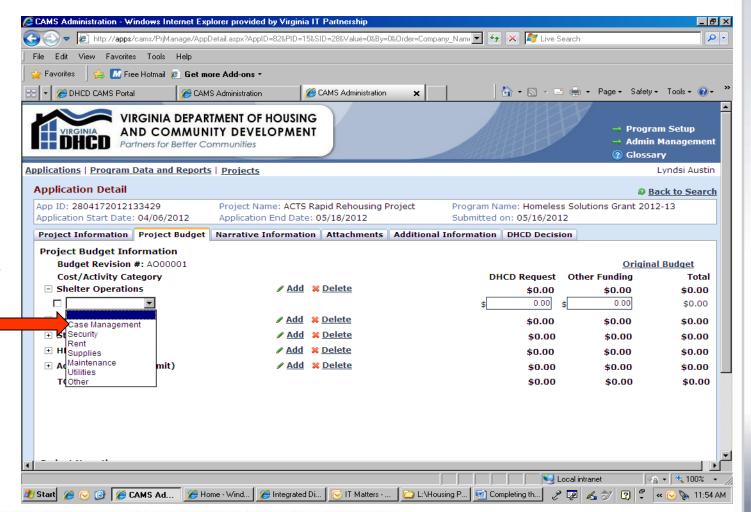
Submitting budget in CAMS





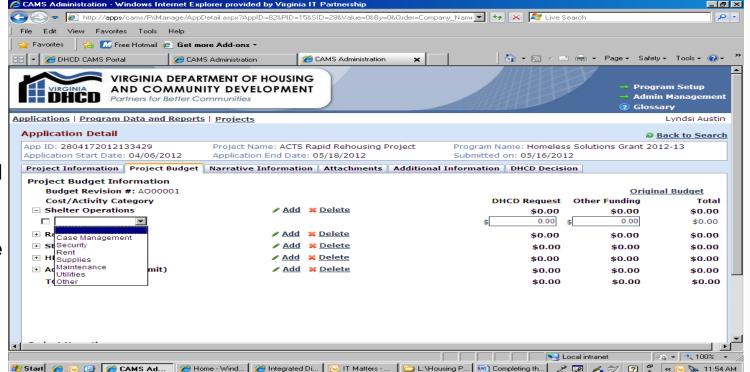






Select applicable line item from the drop down menu.

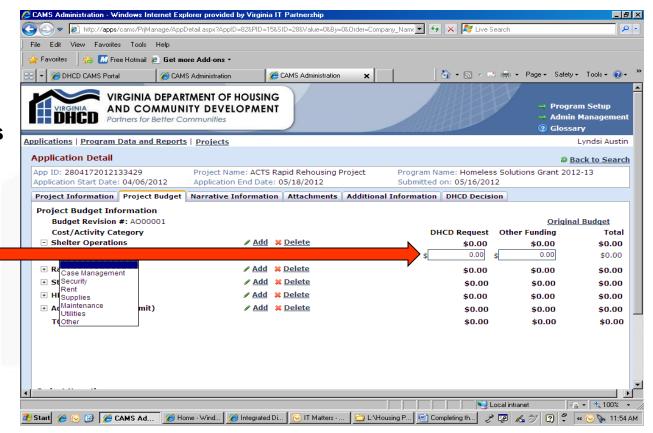




IMPORTANT:
Repeat the add
and selection
process to pull
down each line
item for each
Cost/Activity
Category

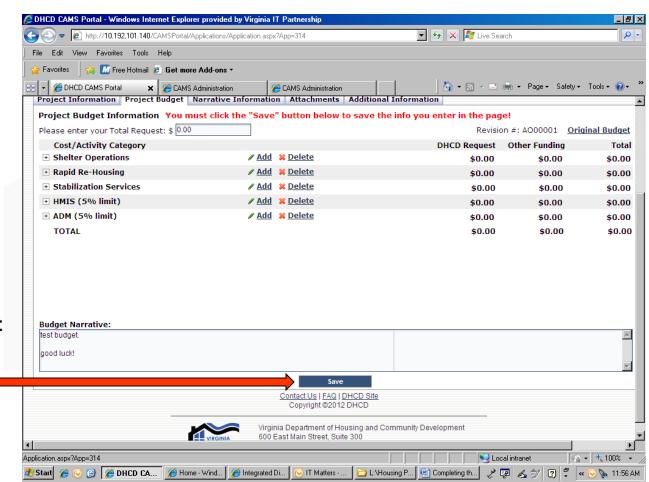


Insert dollar amounts to correspond with line items.
Some line items will remain zero as you may not plan to spend money from every line at this point



Budgets will be denied if each line item has not been dropped down

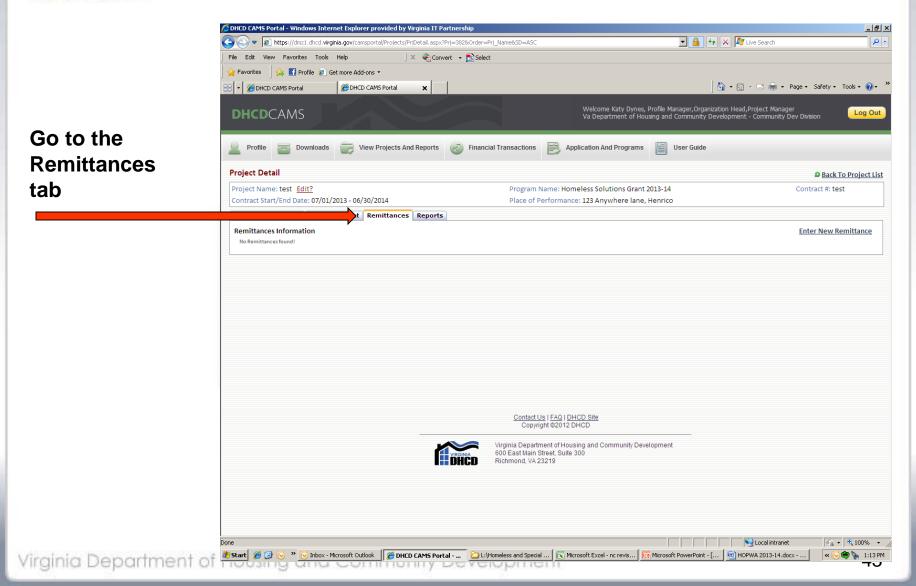




Once all budget line item detail has been entered click Save at the bottom of the page.



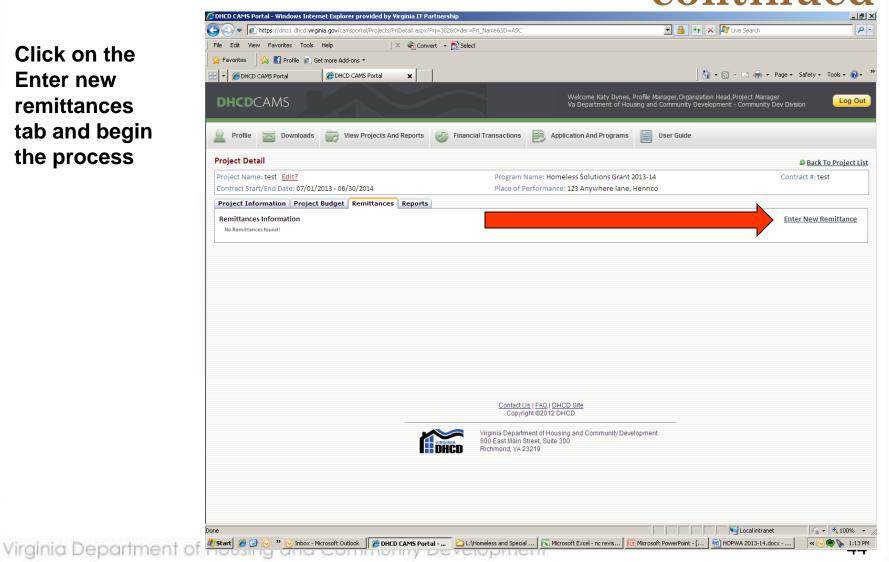
DHCD Submitting remittances in CAMS





Submitting remittances in CAMS continued

Click on the Enter new remittances tab and begin the process





Remittances

Remittances are due per schedules in grant agreements



Remittances

• Grantees should allow 30 days for payment to be deposited from a *correct* remittance

- Items to watch for on the back-up documentation:
 - Dates
 - Staff positions/name
 - Check numbers
 - Eligible expenses
 - If the line item is from a prior reimbursement period there may be a delay while it is checked to ensure nonduplication



Quarterly Reports

Quarterly Reports are due per schedules in the grant agreements



Questions ????



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